

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (original): Apparatus which authenticates a digital representation of an object from which an analog form may be made, the apparatus comprising:

an authenticator which uses first information in a first portion of the digital representation to produce first authentication information, the first information also being obtainable from a third portion of the analog form that is made from the first portion; and

an incorporator which incorporates the first authentication information in a second portion of the digital representation, the authentication information also being obtainable from a fourth portion of the analog form that is made from the second portion.

2. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the digital representation includes items of data, each item has more significant components and less significant components, the first portion is certain more significant components of the item, and the second portion is certain less significant components of the item.

3. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 2 wherein:

the items are pixels and the components are bits in the pixels.

4. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 2 wherein:

the items are signal samples and the components are bits in the signal samples.

5. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:
the digital representation includes an image, the first portion is a first specific region of the image, and the second portion is a second specific region of the image.
6. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:
the digital representation includes a document layer and an image layer, the first portion is the document layer, and the second portion is the image layer.
7. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:
the first portion is vector data in the object.
8. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:
the first portion is content codes in the object.
9. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 8 wherein:
the content codes are codes that represent alphanumeric characters; and
the digital representation includes a document layer that contains the content codes and an
image layer; and
the first portion is the document layer and the second portion is a specific region of the image layer.

10. (original): The apparatus set forth in claim 1 wherein:
the first portion is metadata in the object.

11-20. (canceled)